

**28th Session of the WORKING GROUP OF EXPERTS ON PEOPLE OF AFRICAN DESCENT  
“ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE, THE CLIMATE CRISIS & PEOPLE OF AFRICAN DESCENT”**

Public virtual meeting, 24-26 March 2021, Time:21.00-23.00 Manila PHST/ 13.00-15.00 London GMT/ 14.00-16.00 Geneva CET/ 09.00-11.00 New York EDT/ 08.00-10.00 Quito ECT , Room XX, Palais des Nations, Geneva **Watch** live at <http://webtv.un.org> **Listen** live at <https://listen-live.unog.ch> **Participate** via social media #WGEPAD #africandescent #fightracism **Speak** register for the speakers list send name, organization, date of intervention and statement to [africandescent@ohchr.org](mailto:africandescent@ohchr.org) **Write** send a written submission to [africandescent@ohchr.org](mailto:africandescent@ohchr.org)

Join us on the eve of the 28<sup>th</sup> session 23 March 16.00-18.00 CET for Film Screening & Discussion: *MOSSVILLE: WHEN GREAT TREES FALL*.

	<b>Wednesday 24 MARCH</b>	<b>Thursday 25 MARCH</b>	<b>Friday 26 MARCH</b>
<b>14.00-16.00 CET</b>	<p><b>Item 1:</b> Opening statement by UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Michelle Bachelet</p> <p><b>Item 2:</b> Adoption of the agenda</p> <p><b>Item 3:</b> Update and briefings by the Working Group Q &amp; A</p> <p><b>Item 4. Thematic discussion: Environmental Racism Earth, Wind &amp; Fire (and water)</b></p> <p><b>Chair: Dominique Day, Chairperson of the WGEPAD</b></p> <p><b>Panelists:</b>            *<b>Rosamund Kissi-Debrah</b>, World Health Organization advocate for health and air quality and co-founder of the Ella Roberta Family Foundation            *<b>Rev. Dr Angelique Walker-Smith</b> National Senior Associate for Pan African and Orthodox Church Engagement at Bread for the World            *<b>Eva Okoth</b> Natural Justice            *<b>Isabel Padilla</b>, Executive Secretary, Pastoral Caritas del Vicariato Apostolico de Esmeraldas.</p> <p><b>Q&amp;A</b></p>	<p><b>Item 4: Thematic Discussion: Race and the Climate Crisis: Preparedness &amp; response</b></p> <p><b>Chair: Sabelo Gumedze, Member of the WGEPAD</b></p> <p><b>Panelists:</b>            *<b>Fr James Bhagwan</b> General Secretary of the Pacific Council of Churches (PCC) (video message)            *<b>Biko Rodrigues</b> National Coalition of Quilombola communities (CONAQ)            *<b>Sharon Lavinge</b>, Founder of RISE St. James.            *<b>Myriam Miranda</b> Black Fraternal Organization of Honduras (OFRANEH)            *<b>Collette Pichon Battle</b> Founder of the Gulf Coast Center for Law &amp; Policy</p> <p><b>Q&amp;A</b></p>	<p><b>Item 4: Thematic Discussion: Environmental Racism, the Climate Crisis and reparatory justice</b></p> <p><b>Chair: Ahmed Reid, Member of the WGEPAD</b></p> <p><b>Panelists:</b>            *<b>Prof. Sir Hilary Beckles</b> Chairman of the CARICOM Reparations Commission and Vice-Chancellor of the University of the West Indies (video message)            *<b>Jose Luis Rengifo Balanta</b>, Responsable del tema ambiental Proceso de Comunidades Negras PCN Y hace parte de la Mesa Ambiental y de derecho del Pueblo Negro de Colombia.            *<b>Prof. Verene Shepherd</b>, Vice Chair of the UN Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination            *<b>William A. Darity Jr</b>, Lancet Commission on Reparations and Distributive Justice</p> <p><b>Q&amp;A</b></p> <p><b>Item 5.: Closing remarks</b>            Including Statements by outgoing members of the Working Group ending their term in 2021 (Sabelo Gumedze, Michal Balcerzak and Ricardo Sunga)</p>